

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s):           Smith et al.

Serial No.:             Not yet assigned

For:                    METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR FRYING POTATO  
                          CHIPS AND RELATED FOODSTUFFS

Filed:                  Concurrently herewith

Examiner:             Not yet assigned

Art Unit:              Not yet assigned

Attorney Docket No.: 343.7121USV

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Dear Sir:

In accordance with applicants' duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, please find attached hereto form PTO-1449 listing information which may be material to the patentability of this application, filed concurrently herewith. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed:

XXX   Within three (3) months of the filing date of the national application;

\_\_\_\_\_ Within three (3) months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.491 in an international application;

\_\_\_\_\_ Before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits;

\_\_\_\_\_ After the filing date or date of first Office Action, but before the mailing date of a final action under 37 C.F.R. §1.113, provided that this occurs prior to the issuance of a Notice of Allowance and provided that this I.D.S. is accompanied by either a certification as specified in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) or the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p);

\_\_\_\_\_ After the filing date or date of first Office Action, but before the mailing date of a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. §1.311, provided that this occurs prior to the final action and provided that this I.D.S. is

accompanied by either a certification as specified in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) or the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p);

— After the mailing date of a final action under 37 C.F.R. §1.113, provided that this occurs prior to the issuance of a Notice of Allowance and provided that this I.D.S. is accompanied by either a certification as specified in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e), a petition requesting consideration of the I.D.S., and the petition fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1); and

— After the mailing date of a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. §1.311, provided that this occurs prior to the issuance of a final action and provided that this I.D.S. is accompanied by either a certification as specified in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e), a petition requesting consideration of the I.D.S., and the petition fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(I)(1).

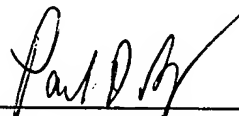
The following references were either (1) cited by or (2) submitted to the Patent and Trademark Office in priority application Serial No. 09/554,345 , filed September 18, 2000. Accordingly, copies of the following references have not been submitted herewith. (37 C.F.R. §1.98(d)).

It should be understood that attention has been called to the references that have been deemed to be pertinent to the claimed present invention. In concluding what was pertinent, the criteria employed was considered most appropriate in light of the invention shown in the present application. However, the Examiner or others may deem some other criteria to be just as appropriate or more appropriate. Therefore, the Examiner is respectfully urged to review the listed references and to make the usual careful independent search for other prior art that may be pertinent.

Respectfully submitted,

July 15, 2003

Date



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<b>FORM PTO-1449</b>  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION</b>  (Use several sheets if necessary)				Docket Number (Optional) <b>343.7121USV</b>		Application Number <b>Not yet assigned</b>	
				Applicant			
				Smith et al.			
				Filing Date		Group Art Unit	
				Concurrently herewith		Not Yet Assigned	

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	3,736,862	6/5/73	Herman Crommelijnek	99	353	
	4,488,478	12/18/84	Alan L. Leeper	99	330	
	4,366,749	1/4/83	Caridis et al.	99	339	
	4,863,750	9/5/89	Pawlak et al.	426	438	
	4,923,705	5/8/90	Mottur et al.	426	438	
	4,929,461	5/29/90	Schonauer et al.	426	438	
	5,137,740	8/11/92	Benson et al.	426	438	
	5,454,297	10/3/95	James L. Phillips	99	405	
	5,580,598	12/3/96	Benson et al.	426	438	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
						YES	NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

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### U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	3,280,723	10/25/66	Hughes et al.	99	353	
	3,763,764	10/9/73	Frank R. Schy	99	353	
	4,152,975	5/8/79	John R. Jones	99	352	
	4,228,730	10/21/80	Schindler et al.	99	329R	
	4,546,684	10/15/85	Richard J. Bellerose	83	355	
	4,706,556	11/17/87	Wallace et al.	99	330	
	5,193,440	3/16/93	Peter A. Frank	99	330	

### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
						YES	NO
	1,263,923	2/16/72	United Kingdom			X	
	195 48 209 C1	7/31/97	Germany				X

### OTHER DOCUMENTS (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)


EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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